



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 144

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1998

No. 134

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 1, 1998, at 2 p.m.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1998

(Legislative day of Tuesday, September 29, 1998)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Blessed be the Name of the Lord: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel. We thank You for this sacred Yom Kippur, the day of atonement. We hear Your whisper in our souls, "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins."—Isaiah 43:25.

Guide our confession, Holy God. Remind us of those things that need Your atonement. Forgive us for our sins of omission and commission, for the drift of our culture from Your moral absolutes. Situations should not shape our ethics but Your ethics must shape our situations. Cleanse us from the acts and attitudes that contradict Your will for us. We have broken Your commandments, denied Your justice, and resisted Your righteousness.

As a Nation on this holy day, we ask for Your forgiveness; as individuals, we claim Your forgiveness for the ways we have broken Your heart.

May the assurance of Your grace give us fresh courage to forgive others as You have forgiven us. Liberate our memories from harbored hurts. We commit this day to communicate Your love and forgiveness to others. Through our Lord and Savior. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader is recognized.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Good morning, Mr. President.

SCHEDULE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, the leader has asked me to announce that this morning there will be a period of morning business lasting approximately 3½ hours. Following morning business, it is hoped that the Senate may proceed to the Department of Defense authorization conference report, or the American Wetlands Conservation Act, under a 1-hour time agreement.

Members are reminded that no votes will occur during today's session of the Senate in observance of the Jewish holiday. Any votes ordered today will be postponed to occur at approximately 10 a.m. on Thursday, and all Senators will be notified as soon as Thursday's voting schedule becomes available.

The leader thanks colleagues for their attention.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMAS). Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 12:30 with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Under the previous order, there will now be 20 minutes under the control of the Senator from Alaska, Senator MURKOWSKI.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I thank the Chair.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS RIDERS

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an issue that was brought up on this floor yesterday by my friend, the senior Senator from Montana, Senator BAUCUS, who proceeded to give us certain views on a number of amendments to the Interior appropriations bill that he proposed be stripped from that particular package.

Mr. President, I think it is appropriate that this body have an opportunity to view the arguments on the other side of the issues, and I think it is fair to perhaps provide a little history on what these amendments are and the rationale associated with the arguments for or against their merits.

There were originally nine proposed amendments in the Baucus package. Two of them have been removed. So we are addressing amendments to strip the Glacier Bay language, King Cove language, and the Tongass language, road decommissioning, section 321 of the forest planning, the issue of the re-introduction of grizzlies in Idaho and Montana, and the Columbia and Snake River Dams, and the likely removal. I am going to enunciate a little further on these as I go along, but I wanted to give you a view of the issues in their

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S11135